Statement

(Rs. Crores)

States	Overall Surplus(+)/ Deficit (—) as in the Budgets 1986-87
Andhra Pradesh	—137·71
Assam	—38·25
Bihar	+87·84
Gujarat	—31·21
Haryana	—26·74
Himachal Pradesh	—0·87
Jammu & Kashmir	+5·51
Karnataka	—43·55
Kerala	—59·40
Madhya Pradesh	—12·30
Maharashtra	—36·21
Manipur	+10·18
Meghalaya	—0·07
Nagaland	+8·00
Orissa	—16·35
Punjab	—
Rajasthan	—77·41
Sikkim	—1·10
Tamil Nadu	—4·79
Tripura	—5·35
Uttar Pradesh	—88·84
West Bengal	+21·95
TOTAL:	—446·67
	(—580·15) (+133·48)

Relief in customs duty on newsprint

1110. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of newsprint, specially indigenous newsprint, have gone beyond the reach of newspaper establishments and some of the newspapers may face closure due to the heavy escalation of newsprint prices; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give some relief in customs duty on newsprint during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The Central Government has allowed the price of indigenous newsprint to be raised by an amount found reasonable by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices' study, keeping in view the relevant factors. The price of newsprint is just one element in the total cost of a newspaper. The price rise in indigenous newsprint has taken place after a period of about 20 months.

(b) Import duty on newsprint has recently been reduced to Rs. 550 per tonne. There is no proposal at present to alter the rates of customs duty on newsprint.

Proposals for cooperative spinning mills from Maharashtra

1111. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of Government in clearing the cooperative spinning mills of Maharashtra;

(b) what is the number of such proposals at present pending with the Central Government; and

(c) by when these are likely to be cleared?